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#4 2-6842
IDS/Statement
Patent

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael P. Spratt) RE: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 09/905,775) Statement
Filed: July 13, 2001) Group: not yet assigned
For: "MESSAGE PASSING TO A KNOWN) Examiner: not yet assigned
LOCATION") Our Ref: B-4242 618937-3
Date: December 7, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicant's duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicant believes that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); and this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this IDS is

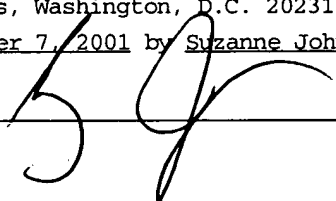
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being submitted after the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is not authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 12-0415.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", on December 7, 2001 by Suzanne Johnston.



Respectfully submitted,

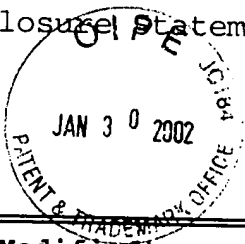


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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of documents cited in Form PTO-1449 (modified)

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4242 618937-3	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/905,775
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANT Michael P. Spratt	
	FILING DATE July 13, 2001	GROUP not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,375,161	12/94	Fuller, et al.	379	57	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.